

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed November 5, 2007. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-18 were pending in this Application. Claims 1-8 and 10-17 were rejected and Claims 9 and 18 were objected to. Claims 19 and 20 have been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Drawing Objections

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the Examiner stated that the cross hatching of elements 5, 6 demonstrative of the different materials must be shown. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

First, 37 CFR 1.83(a) does not require any cross hatching. The standards for sectional views are regulated in 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3) according to which only a sectional view needs to show cross hatching. Only Fig. 3 of the present application shows a sectional view. With respect to elements 5 and 6, Fig. 3 shows different cross hatchings for these elements showing that these elements are made of different material as required by 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3). Hence, at this time it is not clear what the Examiner is objecting to and Applicant believes that the current set of drawings complies with the rules.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,810,716 issued to Louis Abrahams et al. (“Abrahams”). Applicant respectfully traverses and submits the cited art does not teach all of the elements of the claimed embodiment of the invention.

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir.

1987). Furthermore, “the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.” *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co. Ltd.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Applicant respectfully submits that the cited art as anticipated by the Examiner cannot anticipate the rejected Claims, because the cited art does not show all the elements of the present Claims.

The Examiner stated that *Abrahams* discloses that the guide element is made from a material having a lower modulus of elasticity than a material of the stop element. To this end, the Examiner considered the stop element to be made of metal and the guide element to be made of plastic. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Abrahams is silent with respect to the material used for the stop element. Insofar, the Examiner’s assumption is not supported by *Abrahams* in any way. The Examiner stated that hatching used by *Abrahams* supports his assumption based on drawing conventions. Applicant respectfully disagrees. First, it is not entirely clear to Applicant what the drawing conventions at the time of *Abrahams* filing date of October 27, 1972 were. The current drawing convention merely state that different hatchings should be used for different materials. *See*, 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3). Moreover, the current drawing convention does not prescribe a specific hatching for metal. *Id.*. *Abrahams* apparently did not comply with the “current drawing convention” as he used the same hatching for elastomeric sleeve 62 as for sapphire ring seat 58. *See, Abrahams*, Fig. 3 and col3, line 65 to col. 4, line 5. Hence, there is no support in *Abrahams* for the assumption that element 60 is made of a more rigid material than element 62. Independent Claims 1 and 10 are therefore not anticipated by *Abrahams*.

Claims Objections

Claims 9 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant submits new Claims 19 and 20 incorporating the elements of allowable Claims 1 and 19. Applicant removed the definition of the different materials to the dependent claim 20 as this definition is not considered an essential limitation for new Claim 19.

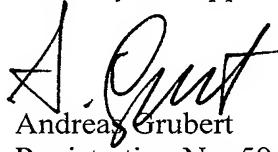
CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims.

Applicant believes there are no fees due at this time, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.322.2545.

Respectfully submitted,
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